



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2024 6:00 PM

500 E. Kelley's Rd, Woodland Park CO 80863

Merit Academy Library

Vision: Students prepared for success in a free society, promoting civic responsibility and contributing their talents in a flourishing republic by pursuing beauty, truth, and good.

Mission: Merit Academy will cultivate the minds and nurture the hearts of K-12 youth in the Ute Pass/Woodland Park region with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue, employing honored foundations of classical education and Core Knowledge®.

I. PRELIMINARIES

- A. Call to order at 6:02 p.m.
- B. Roll call: Ledlie, Dill, Sekowski, Illingworth and Waggoner present
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Public Comment - none

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Waggoner moved to amend the agenda to remove approval of the 19 Jun 24, 7 Aug 24, and 14 Aug 24 meeting minutes, with a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Dill. In favor: Dill, Sekowski, Waggoner, Illingworth and Ledlie; opposed: none

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

The consent calendar was approved by the board as amended, with a motion by Mr. Ledlie to approve, seconded by Ms. Sekowski. In favor: Ledlie, Sekowski, Dill, Illingworth and Waggoner; opposed: None

IV. DISCUSSION

A couple of members of the board have sent out some donation packets to potential funding sources, and are waiting to hear back. Enrollment is at approximately 500 students for the year; the school is prepared for upcoming October count.

V. ACTION ITEMS

None

VI. REPORTS

A. Deans – The Bear Crawl/Fun'd Run is the morning of October 25th, with the Fall Fest/House event starting around noon; Trunk or Treat for the community to begin at around 4 pm that evening. Each “trunk” will have a corresponding visual aid to showcase the club or activity; need to start a SignUpGenius for candy. SAT testing will also be administered here in October.

September 11 was a very successful event to gather at the flagpole with the CAP color guard as a community. Yesterday, the 9th and 10th history class students taught students in the School of Grammar about the U.S. Constitution. The school is planning a large Veterans' Day celebration as well. Multiple events are also planned on October 11, 2024 in conjunction with Red Ribbon Week activities. Parent teacher conferences are also coming up in mid to late October, will be held on a rolling basis with parents. Gold Star applications will also be rolling out for 11th grade students; students must apply and it involves behavioral and academic criteria. NewMinds has rolled out smoothly in the first 4 weeks of use; teachers and staff are finding it easy to use and the data has been quick and generally accurate so far. Discussion of Mr. Lundt's Turkey Tracking biology project, which has been picked up by KRDO locally and nationwide on Yahoo! news. School of Grammar applications for Student Government are currently being processed; School of Logic Student Government is already underway with a planned event; School of Rhetoric applications for Student Government are due later this week.

B. Headmaster – The Headmaster reports a jump of 260 in the state rankings for CMAS scores, which is an incredible improvement and huge congratulations are deserved for all Merit Academy faculty, staff, parents and students. Headmaster also discussed developing a “Stewardship Code” for the leadership at Merit Academy, which fosters a culture of encouragement, positivity and proactivity. Discussion of developing accompanying rubrics for various positions within school leadership. Going to roll out the Stewardship Code to all staff and faculty at Merit Academy soon. Financial true-up is scheduled for tomorrow with WPSD; deadline to finalize on 30 Sep 24. Athletics is going well – cross-country is doing particularly well in rankings, Landsharks and volleyball club are going well; basketball starts in about 6 weeks for School of Logic. Science Olympiad is also ramping up as competitions start in December; Varsity Bullseye Bears is also ramping up and the team is looking at uniform options.

C. Board – There were no updates from the Board.

VII. ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Dill to adjourn at 7:32 p.m., seconded by Ms. Waggoner. In favor: Dill, Ledlie, Sekowski, Illingworth, Waggoner. Opposed: None.